

**Ex-servicemen employed in transportation of coal by
Coal India**

†3388. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ex-servicemen, company-wise, employed in transportation of coal produced by Coal India;

(b) the number of Ex-servicemen, company-wise, verified by Ministry of Defence and separately the number of persons found to be real Ex-servicemen, and fakes amongst them;

(c) total volume of coal transported by them; and

(d) the details of the volume transported by fake Ex-servicemen, and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (d) At present, 93 ex-servicemen Coal Transport Companies are functioning in various subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. Each of the above company is employing 75% ex-servicemen out of its total employees, as per the provisions contained in the existing Memorandum of Understanding between Coal India Ltd. and Directorate General Resettlement (DGR).

Directorate General Resettlement monitors the functioning of ex-servicemen Coal Transport Companies by conducting site inspections. All the existing ex-servicemen Coal Transport Companies sponsored by DGR are genuine ex-servicemen companies.

Complaints of general nature are being received occasionally. However, no specific complaint of running fake ex-servicemen Coal Transportation Companies by benami individuals have been received by the office of DGR.

Details of the volume of coal transported by ex-servicemen companies

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

during the year 2005-06 in various coal subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. is as follows:—

Subsidiary	Quantity transported by ESM companies (in lakh tones)
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	87.98
Central Coalfields Limited	3.01
Western Coalfields Limited	200.38
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	636.47
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	660.19

IAF Aircraft Crash in Gujarat

3389. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Air Force aircraft crashed in a field in Gujarat on the 18th March, 2006 killing both the pilots;

(b) if so, the findings of the statutory inquiry conducted into the mishap and the action taken thereon.

(c) the extent of damage caused to the crops as a result of the mishap;

(d) whether compensation has been paid to the owner of the field where the aircraft fell, if so, what; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir, there was no accident in Gujarat. However, the Indian Air Force lost a Kiran aircraft at Bidar in Karnataka on March 18, 2006. In this accident, two pilots lost their lives. The cause of accident was established as human error (aircrew). A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force (IAF) to enhance and upgrade flight safety.

(c) to (e) The standing crops of sugarcane, groundnut and wheat in the area got damaged. The cost of damage of the crops and the land was